

**You Can Help!**



You're invited to help  
restore and revitalize habitat  
on private and public lands to increase  
pheasant populations in Michigan.

[www.michigan.gov/pheasant](http://www.michigan.gov/pheasant)

The Michigan Pheasant Restoration Initiative is a grass-roots conservation initiative started in 2011 to help neighbors work together as a "cooperative" to restore pheasant populations and habitat in Michigan's traditional pheasant range.

Pheasants rely on high-quality grassland and agricultural areas for adequate cover and food resources throughout their life. Changes in agricultural practices, urbanization, and reforestation have contributed to their declining numbers. Your help is needed to improve pheasant habitat and populations in your local area.

### Initiative Goals

Set within a 10-year timeframe (2011–2020), key initiative goals include:

- Increasing pheasant populations;
- Positively impacting 200,000 acres for pheasants by restoring and/or enhancing high quality blocks of habitat on the broader landscape;
- Restoring, enhancing or maintaining 25,000 acres of high-quality grassland habitat for pheasants on public and private lands within the 200,000-acre focus area;
- Securing sustainable funding and necessary resources to implement the initiative;
- Expanding access to pheasant hunting on public and private lands;
- Recruiting, retaining and reconnecting with small game hunters.

### Pilot Areas

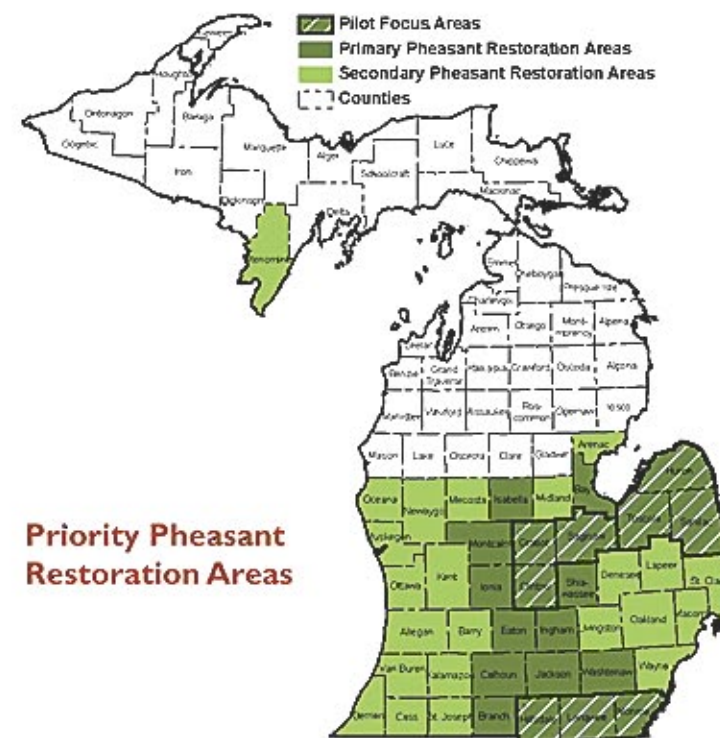
Partners of the initiative identified 3 pilot areas in which to focus initial restoration efforts. These were chosen based on evaluation of pheasant numbers present, available habitat, and habitat restoration potential. These areas are:

- Huron, Sanilac, and Tuscola counties
- Clinton, Gratiot, and Saginaw counties
- Hillsdale, Lenawee, and Monroe counties

### Benefits of the Initiative Go Beyond Pheasants

The initiative will:

- Increase habitat for grassland wildlife species
- Boost soil and water quality
- Enhance, beautify and protect open spaces
- Support beneficial pollinator species
- Create lasting partnerships
- Leave a legacy for future generations



### Priority Pheasant Restoration Areas

### Habitat Restoration

Restoring pheasant habitat on both private and public lands is vital to increasing pheasant numbers. Every acre of high-quality habitat is important, whether it be a few or many acres. However, the larger the block of habitat, the more likely it is to support a greater number and density of pheasants. Ideally cooperatives involving both public and private lands that provide at least 1,200-2,000 acres of high-quality pheasant habitat within a 10,000-acre area will have the greatest success at restoring pheasant populations and hunting opportunities. Such cooperatives fulfilling these basic habitat requirements may also be eligible to receive wild-trapped pheasants from a prime pheasant production state in the Midwest if the local pheasant population does not positively respond as expected.

### Join the Initiative

The best way to increase pheasant populations is through restoration of pheasant habitat on both public and private lands. Every acre counts. Those who partner with others to work on larger blocks of land that link multiple private ownerships to public land through habitat cooperatives will have an even greater positive impact on pheasant habitat and numbers. Now is the time to act to restore the pheasant in Michigan's traditional pheasant range. To do this, we need your help! Please contact one of the people listed on the back page.

For more information, please contact:

### Pilot Area Coordinators:

Counties	Contact
Lenawee	<b>Lauren Lindemann</b>
Hillsdale	517-263-7400, ext. 119
Monroe	lauren.lindemann@mi.nacdnet.net
Huron	<b>Kevin Wilson</b>
Tuscola	989-329-3655 (cell)
Sanilac	kevin.wilson@mi.nacdnet.net
Gratiot	<b>Jeff Kalin</b>
Saginaw	989-875-3050, ext. 101
Clinton	jeff.kalin@mi.nacdnet.net

If you are not located within the pilot areas,  
you may contact:

**Ben Wickerham**  
Pheasants Forever Regional Representative  
517-316-5106  
bwickerham@pheasantsforever.org

**Al Stewart**  
Michigan Department of Natural Resources  
Upland Game Bird Specialist and Program Leader  
517-241-3101  
stewartal@michigan.gov

**Mark Sargent**  
Michigan Department of Natural Resources  
Private Lands Program Manager  
517-241-0666  
sargentm@michigan.gov

### Initial MPRI partners include:

Pheasants Forever • Michigan Department of Natural Resources • Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development • Ducks Unlimited • Michigan United Conservation Clubs • Conservation Districts • National Wild Turkey Federation • U.S. Department of Agriculture • Michigan State University Extension • U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service • other conservation organizations and YOU!